

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00438 261743Z

41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 261547Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6007

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0438

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SY

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: IMPLEMENTATION OF AID PROGRAM

REF: STATE 18022

1. GREATLY APPRECIATE EXCELLENT GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFTEL. WE PLAN TO SEE MINECON IMADI IMMEDIATELY, GIVEN SHORT TIME-FUSE WE HAVE ON UPCOMING SYRIAN ISSUANCE OF L/C'S. SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INFORMED BY CABLE THAT THEIR BIDS UNDER IBF NO. 1 UNDER AID COMMODITY IMPORT PROGRAM WERE ACCEPTED.

2. UNLESS DEPT. DOES NOT WANT OR CANNOT AT THIS POINT REPLY TO OUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROVIDE IMADI WITH FURTHER GUIDANCE, AS REQUESTED BELOW.

3. AS WE REPORTED IN DAMASCUS 5088, WE HAVE NOT HAD NOR DO WE FORESEE AT THIS TIME PROBLEM WITH AID IFB'S/CONTRACTS. SPECIFIC PROBLEM SO FAR AS WE CAN IDENTIFY NOW WILL BE WITH L/C'S ISSUED BY SYRIANS. DAMASCUS 4769 AND 5088 SET FORTH SYRIAN L/C LANGUAGE WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN, WHICH ON ONE L/C WE HAVE OBTAINED APPEARED TO BE PREPRINTED LANGUAGE ON A SEPARATE PAGE, THE LATTER NOT EVEN REFERRING TO THE L/C DOCUMENT. REFTEL DESCRIBES SAMPLE OF
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31 SYRIAN COMMERCIAL, NON-AID L/C'S, 20 ACCEPTABLE AND 11

UNACCEPTABLE, WITH PARA 5 REFTEL PROVIDING LANGUAGE OF SPECIFIC ACCEPTABLE CLAUSES.

5. PARA 6, REFTEL, SUPPLIES TEXT OF TWO UNACCEPTABLE CLAUSES, THUS CLARIFYING FOR US UNACCEPTABILITY OF GERMAN-ISRAEL REPARATIONS CLAUSE (PARA 2F(2), DAMASCUS 4769). OTHER UNACCEPTABLE CLAUSE IN PARA 6, REFTEL, IN ITS GENERAL COVERAGE, WE ASSUME MAKES CLAUSE WE QUOTED IN PARA 2F(4) DAMASCUS 4769 ALSO UNACCEPTABLE, ALONG WITH CLUASES CONTAINED PARAS 3 AND 4 AMMAN 9215. PLEASE CONFIRM.

6. IN ORDER FOR US TO PROVIDE AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE GUIDANCE TO IMADI, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF TEXTS OF UNACCEPTABLE CLAUSES, INsofar AS DEPT CAN PROVIDE US SUCH GUIDANCE AS WE INDICATED IN PARA 2 ABOVE. AND AS SOON AS AVAILABLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE COPIES OF THE LETTERS OF CREDIT AID MAY ACQUIRE FROM US BANKS PER PARA 8, STATE 18022.
MURPHY

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